APR 1 2 2002 48 4

Patent Attorney Docket No. MER-010 CP2CNDV

IN THE JUNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

))
) Group Art Unit: 1644
) Examiner: G. Ewoldt
RECEIVED APR 1 5 2002 TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.143

This Response is submitted in reply to the Restriction Requirement dated 12 March 2002, for which a response is due on or before 12 April 2002.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Restriction Requirement dated 12 March 2002 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.143

Claims 82, 84-103 are pending in the application. A copy of the pending claims are submitted herewith as Appendix A for the Examiner's convenience.

The Examiner restricted the invention eight ways as follows: